AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A reproducing apparatus for moving main data that has been subjected to reproduction-restrictive coding from a first recording medium where the main data is recorded to a second recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

storing means for storing a key to be used for decoding a code that restricts reproduction of the main data;

input means for receiving the main data from the first recording medium;

judging means for judging whether the main data received by the input means can be decoded by using the key that is stored in the storing means;

B1

first output means for outputting the main data received by the input means to the second recording medium; ~~and~~

second output means for informing the first recording medium of permission or prohibition of movement of the main data and completion of the movement of the main data; and

control means for causing the first output means to output the main data received by the input means to the second recording medium when the judging means judges that the main data can be decoded, and for prohibiting the first output means from outputting the main data received by the input means to the second recording medium when the judging means

judges that the main data cannot be decoded, wherein

the control means causes the second output means to inform the first recording medium of permission of movement of the main data and thereby causes output of the main data when the judging means judges that the main data can be decoded, and causes the second output means to inform the first recording medium of completion of the movement and thereby causes erasure of the main data from the first recording medium when the movement of the main data is completed.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising key generating means for generating the key for decoding the code that restricts reproduction of the main data, wherein

B1

the storing means stores the key generated by the key generating means.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the key generated by the key generating means and stored in the storing means is generated every time the main data that has been subjected to reproduction-restrictive coding is moved from the first recording medium where the main data is recorded to the second recording medium and further comprising means for discarding the key every time movement of the main data is completed.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the key that is stored in the

storing means is unique to the reproducing apparatus.

Claim 5 (Cancelled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising reproducing means for reproducing the main data that is input from the first recording medium, wherein the control means causes the reproducing means to reproduce the main data that is input from the first recording medium when the judging means judges that the main data can be decoded.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the storing means comprises first ~~stoning~~ storing means and the key comprises a first key and further comprising:

second storing means for storing a second key that is different from the first key used for decoding the main data input from the first recording medium; and

coding means for coding the main data to be output from the first output means to the second recording medium, so that resulting coded main data is decoded by using the second key that is stored in the second storing means,

wherein the control means decodes the main data by using the first key stored in the first storing means, causes the coding means to encode the main data in such a manner that the main data can be decoded by using the second key stored in the second storing means, and causes the first output means to

output resulting coded main data to the second recording medium, when the judging means judges that the main data input from the first recording medium can be decoded.

Claim 8 (Original) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising number-of-copying counting means for updating a count of the number of times of copying when the main data recorded in the second recording means is copied to the first recording medium and when the main data is moved from the first recording medium.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising comparing means for comparing the count of the number-of-copying counting means with a permitted number of times of copying, wherein the control means prohibits copying when a number of copies of the main data copied from the second storing means has reached the permitted number of times of copying as a result of comparison by the comparing means.

B1

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) An information distribution system comprising:

a server apparatus being connected to a terminal apparatus for supplying coded main data to the terminal apparatus, the server apparatus including:

memory means for recording at least one of coded main data; and

transmitting means for transmitting to the terminal

apparatus the coded main data that is read out from the memory means; and

the terminal apparatus for decoding and reproducing coded main data including:

receiving means for receiving the coded main data that is transmitted from the transmitting means of the server apparatus;

recording means for recording coded main data;

decoding means for decoding the coded main data that is one of received by the receiving means and recorded in the recording means;

judging means for judging whether the terminal apparatus is connected to the server apparatus; and

B1

control means for controlling the decoding means to decode the coded main data received by the receiving means when the judging means judges that the terminal apparatus is connected to the server apparatus, and for controlling the decoding means to decode the coded main data recorded in the recording means when the judging means judges that the terminal apparatus is not connected to the server apparatus.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The information distribution system according to claim 10, wherein the terminal apparatus further comprises coding means for coding main data, wherein the control means causes the coding means to encode the main data and causes the server apparatus to record the coded main data resulting therefrom.

Claim 12 (Original) The information distribution system according to claim 11, wherein the terminal apparatus further comprises attaching and detaching means for attaching the recording means to the terminal apparatus in a detachable manner.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The information distribution system according to claim 11, wherein the terminal apparatus further comprises:

storing means for storing a key used when the coding means encodes the main data and used when the decoding means decodes the coded main data,

wherein the coding means encodes the main data by using the key stored in the storing means, and the decoding means decodes the coded main data by using the key stored in the storing means.

B1

Claim 14 (Previously Presented) The information distribution system according to claim 13, wherein the key that is stored in the storing means is unique to the terminal apparatus.

Claim 15 (Original) The information distribution system according to claim 10, wherein the terminal apparatus further comprises reproducing means for reproducing decoded main data.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The information distribution system according to claim 10, wherein:

the terminal apparatus further comprises transmitting means for transmitting decoded main data produced by the decoding means; and

the server apparatus further comprises receiving means for receiving the decoded main data, and reproducing means for reproducing the decoded main data received by the receiving means,

whereby the server apparatus reproduces the main data decoded by the terminal apparatus.

B1

Claim 17 (Original) The information distribution system according to claim 16, the decoded main data that is transmitted from the transmitting means of the terminal apparatus is an audio signal.

Claim 18 (Original) The information distribution system according to claim 10, wherein the recording means of the terminal apparatus is a nonvolatile memory.

Claim 19 (Original) The information distribution system according to claim 10, wherein the memory medium of the server apparatus is a hard disk drive.